

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-25. (Canceled).

26. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~25~~ 109, wherein the object includes at least part of a human arm.

27. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~25~~ 109, wherein the object includes at least part of an instrument.

28. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~25~~ 108, further including moving the entry seal assembly between an unsealed configuration and a sealed configuration, and locking the entry seal assembly in the sealed configuration.

29. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~25~~ 108, further including engaging a detached, separate first component with a second component, the first and second components forming the entry seal assembly.

30. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the first component includes a surgical glove.

31. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~claim 25~~ claim 109, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first member and a second member connected together by a sleeve member, the method further including rotating the first and second members relative to one another to seal the object.

32. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the first member includes a first ring, and the second member includes a second ring.

33. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the first ring includes a circular shape, and the second ring includes a circular shape.

34. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 32, further including locking the first and second rings together in a sealing configuration.

35. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 25 108, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a sleeve extending between a seal mechanism and a proximal ring of the surgical device.

36. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 101, wherein the proximal ring includes a circular shape, and the distal ring includes a circular shape.

37. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 101, wherein the proximal ring, distal ring, and diaphragm have approximately the same inner diameter.

38. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 25 108, wherein the entry seal assembly engages a proximal-most portion of the surgical device.

39. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 25 108, wherein the distal ring is larger than the incision.

40. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 25 108, further including biasing the ~~tubular~~ diaphragm against the incision.

41. (Canceled).

42. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim ~~[[41]]~~ 105, wherein the entry seal assembly is configured to receive and seal at least part of a human arm.

43. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim ~~[[41]]~~ 105, wherein the entry seal assembly is configured to receive and seal at least part of an instrument.

44. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim ~~[[41]]~~ 105, wherein the entry seal assembly is movable between an unsealed configuration and a

sealed configuration, and the entry seal assembly includes a locking assembly configured to secure the entry seal assembly in the sealed configuration.

45. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim [[41]] 105, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first component and a second component, the first component being completely detachable from the second component.

46. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 45, wherein the first component includes a surgical glove.

47. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim [[41]] 105, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first member and a second member connected together by a sleeve member, the first and second members being rotatable relative to one another to seal ~~the~~ an object.

48. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 47, wherein the first member includes a first ring, and the second member includes a second ring.

49. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the first ring includes a circular shape, and the second ring includes a circular shape.

50. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a locking assembly configured to secure the first and second rings together.

51. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim [[41]] 105, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a sleeve extending between a seal mechanism and a proximal ring of the surgical device.

52. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 103, wherein the proximal ring includes a circular shape, and the distal ring includes a circular shape.

53. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 103, wherein the proximal ring, distal ring, and diaphragm have approximately the same inner diameter.

54. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim [[41]] 105, wherein the entry seal assembly forms a proximal-most portion of the surgical device.

55. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim [[41]] 105, wherein the distal ring is larger than the incision.

56.-72. (Canceled).

73. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72 106, wherein the entry seal assembly is configured to receive and seal at least part of a human arm.

74. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72 106, wherein the entry seal assembly is configured to receive and seal at least part of an instrument.

75. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72 106, wherein the entry seal assembly is movable between an unsealed configuration and a sealed configuration, and the entry seal assembly includes a locking assembly configured to secure the entry seal assembly in the sealed configuration.

76. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72 106, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first component and a second component, the first component being completely detachable from the second component.

77. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 76, wherein the first component includes a surgical glove.

78. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in ~~claim 72~~ claim 106, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first member and a second member connected together by a sleeve member, the first and second members being rotatable relative to one another to seal ~~the~~ an object.

79. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 78, wherein the first member includes a first ring, and the second member includes a second ring.

80. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 79, wherein the first ring includes a circular shape, and the second ring includes a circular shape.

81. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 79, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a locking assembly configured to secure the first and second rings together.

82. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim ~~72~~ 106, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a sleeve extending between a seal mechanism and ~~the~~ a proximal ring.

83. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim ~~72~~ 82, wherein the proximal ring includes a circular shape, and the distal ring includes a circular shape.

84. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim ~~72~~ 83, wherein the proximal ring, distal ring, and diaphragm have approximately the same inner diameter.

85. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim ~~72~~ 106, wherein the entry seal assembly forms a proximal-most portion of the surgical device.

86. (Canceled).

87. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86 107, wherein the entry seal assembly is configured to receive and seal at least part of a human arm.

88. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86 107, wherein the entry seal assembly is configured to receive and seal at least part of an instrument.

89. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86 107, wherein the entry seal assembly is movable between an unsealed configuration and a sealed configuration, and the entry seal assembly includes a locking assembly configured to secure the entry seal assembly in the sealed configuration.

90. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86 107, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first component and a second component, the first component being completely detachable from the second component.

91. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 90, wherein the first component includes a surgical glove.

92. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86 107, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first member and a second member connected

together by a sleeve member, the first and second members being rotatable relative to one another to seal ~~the~~ an object.

93. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 92, wherein the first member includes a first ring, and the second member includes a second ring.

94. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 93, wherein the first ring includes a circular shape, and the second ring includes a circular shape.

95. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 93, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a locking assembly configured to secure the first and second rings together.

96. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86 107, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a sleeve extending between a seal mechanism and ~~the~~ a proximal ring.

97. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86 96, wherein the proximal ring includes a circular shape, and the distal ring includes a circular shape.

98. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86 97, wherein the proximal ring, distal ring, and diaphragm have approximately the same inner diameter.

99. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86 107, wherein the entry seal assembly forms a proximal-most portion of the surgical device.

100. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86 107, wherein the distal ring is larger than the incision.

101. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 25 108, wherein the surgical device further includes a proximal ring, the proximal ring being located outside the patient after forming the primary coupling of the surgical device to the patient.

102. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 101, wherein the entry seal assembly is coupled to the proximal ring and located proximal of the proximal ring.

103. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim [[41]] 105, wherein the surgical device further includes a proximal ring located between the tubular diaphragm and the entry seal assembly.

104. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 103, wherein the entry seal assembly is coupled to the proximal ring and located proximal of the proximal ring.

105. (New) A surgical device providing sealed access through an incision in a patient, the device comprising:

a distal ring insertable through the incision to engage internal body tissue;

a tubular diaphragm having a distal end, a proximal end, and an incision engaging portion,

the distal end of the tubular diaphragm being coupled to the distal ring,

the incision engaging portion configured to engage the incision, and

the proximal end of the tubular diaphragm located proximal the distal ring and outside the incision; and

an entry seal assembly located proximal the tubular diaphragm and configured to maintain a controlled pressurized environment inside the surgical device,

the engagement of the incision engaging portion to the incision and the distal ring to the internal body tissue forming a primary coupling of the surgical device to the patient.

106. (New) A surgical device providing sealed access through an incision in a patient, the device comprising:

a distal ring insertable through the incision to engage internal body tissue;

a tubular diaphragm having a distal end, a proximal end, and an incision engaging portion,

the distal end of the tubular diaphragm being coupled to the distal ring,

the incision engaging portion configured to engage the incision, and

the proximal end of the tubular diaphragm located proximal the distal ring and outside the incision; and

an entry seal assembly located proximal the tubular diaphragm,

the entry seal assembly configured to maintain a controlled pressurized environment inside the surgical device such that the engagement of the incision engaging portion of the diaphragm with the incision and engagement of the distal ring to the internal body tissue increases with an increase in pressure within the controlled pressurized environment.

107. (New) A surgical device providing sealed access through an incision in a patient, the device comprising:

a distal ring insertable through the incision to engage internal body tissue;

a tubular diaphragm having a distal end, a proximal end, an internal portion, and an incision engaging portion opposite the internal portion,

the distal end of the tubular diaphragm being coupled to the distal ring and the proximal end of the tubular diaphragm located proximal the distal ring and outside the incision; and

an entry seal assembly located proximal the tubular diaphragm and configured to maintain a controlled pressurized environment inside the surgical device,

the engagement of the distal ring to the internal body tissue providing a seal such that the incision engaging portion of the tubular diaphragm is not subject to the controlled pressurized environment, while the internal portion of the tubular diaphragm is subject to the controlled pressurized environment.

108. (New) A method of providing sealed access through an incision with a surgical device having a distal ring, tubular diaphragm, and an entry seal assembly, the method comprising:

making an incision in a patient;

inserting the distal ring through the incision to engage internal body tissue so that the diaphragm is located proximal the distal ring and extends through and outside the incision;

sealing a proximal end of the surgical device with an entry seal assembly;

creating a controlled pressurized environment inside the surgical device; and

forming a primary coupling of the surgical device to the patient through an engagement of the diaphragm and distal ring with the incision and internal body tissue.

109. (New) A method as claimed in claim 108, further including inserting an object through the entry seal assembly and the diaphragm and into the patient, the controlled pressurized environment being maintained during the inserting of the object.

110. (New) A method as claimed in claim 108, wherein the creating of a controlled pressurized environment inside the surgical device includes increasing engagement of the diaphragm and distal ring with the incision and internal body tissue with an increase in pressure in the controlled pressurized environment.